

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, December 16, 1889, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. December 16th., 1889. Palace Hotel, S. F. My dear Alec:

I feel as if lately my letters have been so full of our own doings that you must be tempted to think that thoughts of you and the children occupy small place in my mind. Yet it is not so, Were we Siberian exiles or to draw it more mildly Moxee colonists! we could hardly long more for letters from home and wait more impatiently for them. I have had two delightful letters from you, both in Moxee, and now I want some more. It is a great comfort to have Mamma write of you to Papa but she cannot tell me what you are doing, how you are getting on with your famous review. Will it be finished for the January Annals? I want to know all about it. And what else are you doing? What did that mysterious telegram about your laboratory mean? I would be so glad if you are really going back to experimental work. Only I want the results of these past six years of devoted hard work given to the world.

Yesterday to my disgust I found myself a "specimen". Uncle Sam told the principal of the California Institution that I would be at his house that afternoon so he and his daughter came to call, I was exceedingly annoyed, not because I was to meet them but that they were to meet me. I knew of course that they would put me through an examination in their own minds and I felt I was in about as disadvantageous position as I could well be, alone with Papa and some strangers. If I did not happen to understand everybody ! Fortunately, I did— but I don't think Uncle Samewill repeat the experiment. The principal is Mr. Wilkenson who met you years ago at Bellville. We are to visit the Institution tomorrow. I find Uncle Sam and Aunt Sophie looking as if not a day had

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